GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:352
ANSWERED ON:19.07.2016
Foreign Funded NGOs
Jayadevan Shri C. N.;Roy Prof. Saugata;Tadas Shri Ramdas Chandrabhanji

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently cancelled the licences of some Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) receiving foreign funds under the Foreign Contributions Regulation Act (FCRA) for their involvement in illegal activities and posing threat to the sovereignty and unity of the country;

(b) if so, the details of FCRA registrations cancelled during each of the last three years and the current year, Statewise including Teesta Setalvad"s NGO Sabrang Trust;

(c) whether allegations of pick and chose policy in cancellation of FCRA
registration have been reported, if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether it is a fact that the United Nations human rights experts have expressed displeasure over the cancellation of FCRA registrations and have also urged India to repeal the FCRA as the law was increasingly obstructing civil society"s access to foreign funding; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

(a) & (b): Yes Madam, Government has cancelled the FCRA registration of NGOs based on the violation of provisions of FCRA, 2010. Details of FCRA registration cancelled during the last three years and the current year,

state-wise including Teesta Setalvad's NGO Sabrang Trust is given in the annexure.
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(c): Government has taken action only in those cases where violations of FCRA have come to notice, specifically if they are reported.
(d) & (e): Ministry of External Affairs has communicated a write up containing certain views of UN Human rights experts on FCRA provisions. The Government is also aware about the one sided and biased views expressed by certain persons / associations regarding the cancellation of FCRA Registration. Ministry of Home Affairs has clarified the position against these one sided views earlier. The Ministry of Home Affairs is mandated to administer the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010 (FCRA 2010), for regulating the receipt and utilization of foreign contribution by the associations. As and when reports are received against any association for alleged violation of the Act, action is initiated against the alleged violators after following due process as prescribed in the FCRA, 2010 and FCRR, 2011. Reasonable opportunities like furnishing of information to a standard questionnaire, inspection of records, issuing a show-cause notice, personal appearances, if required, are given to the associations before taking a final decision regarding cancellation of FCRA registration. The cancellation order etc. are also subject to judicial scrutiny. Further, for maintaining transparency all orders, Notifications etc., are placed on website www.fcraonline.nic.in of the Ministry of Home Affairs.
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